

its favour is that the combination of anatomical characters is exactly the same in all its genera, which have a very scattered distribution.

It will be noticed that no Parrots with normal carotids occur in the New World; and, as far as I know, none but members of that group have red beaks.

P.S. (December 8th, 1874).—On the 25th of last month, from the death of one of the specimens of *Stringops habroptilus*, recently purchased by the Society, I have had an opportunity of dissecting a third individual of the species. In it the ambiens muscle is complete, of fair size, at the same time that it crosses the knee as in *Psittacus*. This makes me feel more convinced that the arrangement indicated by the dotted portions of the diagram plates accompanying this communication is the correct one, and that the main stem has given rise to three instead of two branches—the Stringopinæ being the nearest representatives of the ancestral form, some of its members (*Geopsittacus*, *Melopsittacus*, *Euphema*, and *Cyanorhamphus*) having quite recently lost, whilst *Stringops* itself is just now on the point of losing the ambiens muscle. It is, however, quite possible, if external resemblances and geographical distribution are left out of consideration, that *Stringops* must stand as the sole representative of the Stringopinæ, thus conforming with generally received ideas; and that *Geopsittacus*, together with *Melopsittacus*, *Euphema*, and *Cyanorhamphus*, must be placed with *Agapornis* as part of the family Agapornithinæ, in which the formula is 2,—,—,+. The close external resemblance between *Stringops* and *Geopsittacus* nevertheless makes me indisposed to adopt this view.

## 7. Descriptions of five new Species of Shells.

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(Plate LXXII.)

1. TRITON (EPIDROMUS) COMPTUS, sp. nov. (Plate LXXII. figs. 5, 5 a.)

T. *testa oblongo-turrita, rufo-fusca, castaneo maculata, undique creberrime decussate lirata, liris eximie granulosis, interstitiis transversim striatis; anfractibus rotundatis, maculis angustis oblongis transversim balteatis; varicibus paucis, rotundatis, castaneo grandimaculatis; apertura subexpansa, labio externo reflexo, lævi, ad marginem lineis castaneis minutis notatis; lamina columellari lævi, pellucida, polita; canali brevissimo recurvo: long. 54, lat. 20; apert. long. 20, lat. 10 mill.*

Shell of the usual general form of an *Epidromus* (Klein) as separated from the genus *Triton* (Lamarck), reddish-brown colour, blotched and spotted with dark chestnut-brown, closely and exquisitely cancellated and granulated; whorls rounded, belted with narrow oblong spots; varices few, rounded, with large chestnut blotches; aperture rather expanded; outer lip reflexed, smooth, with small



